

Application No. 10/622,887
Amdt. Dated 06/23/2004
Reply to Office Action of 12/23/2003

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title, please replace the paragraph immediately following "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" with the following paragraph:

--This application is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/869,736, filed July 3, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,649,209, which claims priority to International Application No. PCT/CH00/00025, filed January 18, 2000, which in turn claims priority to Swiss Patent Application No. 118/99, filed January 22, 1999.--

On page 2, please replace paragraph 8 with the following:

[0008] This problem is solved by ~~the measures stated in the characterizing part of Claim 1~~ a method for covering areas of damaged protective coating on containers or the like, characterized in that protective coating material is stamped on to the zone in which the areas to be coated occur. Advantageous configurations of the invention, an apparatus for carrying out the method and a transport system are indicated in further claims.

On page 3, please replace paragraphs 13, 19, and 21 with the following:

[0013] ~~Fig. 2 shows~~ Figs. 2A and 2B show the lug after welding, in a section perpendicular to the body and also in an end view.

[0019] ~~Fig. 8 shows~~ Figs. 8A and 8B show different variants of a foil heating unit required in the apparatus according to Fig. 7.

[0021] ~~Fig. 10 shows~~ Figs. 10A, 10B, and 10C show various blanks cut from foil tapes.

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On page 9, please replace paragraph 55 with the following:

[0055] ~~Fig. 10 shows~~ Figs. 10A-10C show some foil tapes 100 and blanks 150, 151, 152 taken therefrom. For example, Fig. 10A shows rectangular blanks 150 which can be made without leaving any waste.